GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6465
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2002
ILLEGALLY SMUGGLING OF IMPORTANT RECORDS OF DPC
HANNAN MOLLAH

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the allegations regarding smuggling of some important records of the Dabhol Power Company out of the country and also some documents were destroyed by setting it on fire;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted into this incident; and

(c) if so, the details of findings along with the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) : The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), who are one of the lenders to the Dabhol power project, have informed that Dabhol Power Company has indicated that some electronic chips and coded computer drives have been removed for security reasons and that these components are in India and can be used for plant operations at any time. The company has also informed that all the critical documents and records are in London with their Counsel in connection with the arbitration proceedings with various Indian Government authorities. Dabhol Power Company has also informed that no original documents or records have been destroyed and to minimize storage costs, the company undertakes destruction of duplicate records from time to time.

Dabhol Power Company has also informed the Bombay High Court that the components are in India and would continue to remain so, and that they can be used for plant operations at any time. IDBI has advised Dabhol Power Company to intimate the address of the place(s) where the computer drives and records are kept and to assure that they have been preserved in the manner required and that inspection of the assets removed and records would be given to the Lenders and persons authorised by the Lenders, whenever required.

(b) : No, Sir.

(c) : Does not arise.